SFChronicle FEB 28 1976

# Bomb Plot Arrest — JFK Case Witness

New Orleans

A witness in former District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy has been arrested on charges of plotting to bomb five downtown buildings during Mardi Gras, federal officials said yesterday.

Gordon Novel, who first supported Garrison then opposed his 1969 attempt to convict businessman Clay Shaw of conspiracy to assassinate Kennedy, was arrested by U.S. Treasury agents last week.

"He was arrested as result of an undercover investigation into a conspiracy to use an explosive incendiary device to set fire to buildings in New Orleans," said Nicholas Gaglio, a spokesman for the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Bureau of the Treasury Department.

"They were due to go off at Mardi Gras time, and we certainly weren't going to let that happen," Gaglio said. "You could imagine the confusion if that went off downtown." Mardi Gras is Tuesday.

Gaglio said the investigation was continuing.

United Press